

SPEECH

SPEECH
—OF—
HON. GEO. B. LORING,
—IN THE—
Massachusetts Senate, March 26, 1879,
—ON THE—
MUSEUM OF COMPARATIVE ZOOLOGY.

Mr. President: I am extremely reluctant to occupy the time of the Senate with any argument of my own upon the important question now before, and my reluctance may well be increased by the fact that during the many weeks which have passed over us since our labors began, I

tion, yet in presence of potassa or soda compounds they seem to be harmless. The phosphate of magnesia has for two reasons acquired considerable value in agricultural operations,—it may be used as an absorbent of ammonia and phosphoric acid, and as the distribution of potassa in the soil. It means for the distribution of potassa.

farmers of the State more familiar with the character, and with the existing results concerning their

tassa and 30—38 per cent, of sulphate of magnesia, enjoys a particular reputation because of its superior fitness to cure sick and beet sick lands, the potassa passing rapidly to the lower strata of soil, and coming thus in direct contact with the roots of these plants. The sulphate of magnesia may be used like gypsum, and if scattered over stable manure, or composted with absorbent substances, and combines with soluble ammoniac and oxide of iron.

of its greater solubility, it exceeds gypsum in efficiency. A magnesia is one of the most essential articles of plant food, and a natural that a direct incorporation of magnesia in the main fertilizer can produce beneficial results. The peculiar saline character of these Stassfurt fertilizers renders it advisable to apply them with some acid.

when dressing them, a bladder of water. The hens continue laying and appear as well as ever, only they stand in that unnatural

contact, and they are, therefore, best scattered daily in small quantities, or posted. These modes of application are doubtfully most advisable in general farming. In case they are to be used for special purposes for commercial purposes, they ought to be mixed thoroughly with three or four times their weight of muck or loam, and carefully spread with a rake, or the like.

carefully used with reference to the soil in view. The best time for application is late in fall or early in spring, to allow a suitable distribution in the soil. In case of a loose, sandy or gravelly soil, where superphosphate pays best on account of a low degree of absorption, it is best to incorporate them but a short time before planting. Their continued systematic use is only

LUCERN.

The Superintendent of the Agricultural College Farm at Amherst says, in his report to the Trustees, the acres of land devoted to the different crops are as follows:

	Acres
Potatoes.....	4
Sugar beets.....	4
Corn.....	8
Swedish turnips.....	0
Rye.....	4
Barley.....	2
Oats.....	11
Millet.....	1

always profitable when it is properly cultivated, while the former was suggested by us

Barren ground	1
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Vegetable garden	1
Young apple, pear and peach orchard	3
Vineyard	2
Total arrear in tillage	48
Pasture	126
Old apple orchards	3
Mowing	125
Woods and roads	80

The potatoes were planted on land which was well manured and produced a good crop of corn last year, and I planted again to subdue a kind of sedge-grass, which had taken complete possession of the land. The land was ploughed April 26th.

WEIGHT OF MILK.
Editor of Massachusetts Ploughman:

rowed out five inches deep and two feet
inches apart; halves of potatoes, plant
size, dropped in the furrows, at intervals
eighteen inches in the rows. The pieces
then harrowed lengthwise the furrows.
Thomas' smoothing-harrow, which combs
without disturbing the sets. This harrow
did not quite fill up the furrows; but

other passage of the same implement, a week later, left the ground as smooth as a garden-bed, and also destroyed a mass of weeds which had begun to germinate. The land was harrowed again, just as we could see the rows. The 17th of June we ran a double mould-board plough between the rows, which raised a ridge of soil between the rows.

milk weighs less than a poorer and more watery specimen. In general, the reckoning for milk is ten pounds to the gallon.

The land where the potatoes grow is sandy loam, in an elevated position with a considerable slope toward the south—not by any means the kind of land that would be commonly expected to need

ing. The presence of stagnant water, however, indicated by the grasses' to, and also by the presence of wire in great numbers. These larvae seriously diminished the crop, destroying and killing the young plants, and, by perforating the tubers, rendered a considerable number of them fit only for fodder. The

large land *naturally rich* but run down, to fall when I can get manure? I want to grow

busbels, all in fact that were not injured by the wire-worm, are of first rate quality. The kinds planted were the Orono, the Rose, King of the Earlies, Peerless, Bountiful, Prolife, and Brigham's Seedlings. Some of the interesting points of difference were observed in the growth and yield of the different varieties: but the ravages of the wire-worm were not so general as in the case of the

prevented any precise comparison of respective merits of the different kinds.

There are other points of interest to which we shall take occasion to allude hereafter.

CURE DOGS OF KILLING SHEEP.—

If they will give it a little thought and communicate the results of their cogitations,

and then pick the largest and oldest of the flock, put him in the pen, get away from him with a collar around his neck, and draw up over the middle of the pole, so that the dog will have his fore feet awing of the ground a few inches. Get out the pen, and let the buck give him several butts, and then turn him loose. The

KNOTS ON PLUM TREES.—A correspondent of the American Institute Farmer writes that the following knots form

of middle of June. In this way you both
lam low the surface, and keep down the we

the knot, being careful not to touch except in the diseased parts. The line kills the excrescence, and the tree on healthy branches below it. He all branches of diseased trees removing.

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